

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electric apparatus comprising:
a power supply unit that has terminals to supply power to a circuit board; and
a circuit board that can be mounted to said power supply unit using at least two different mounting orientations and can change the current path depending on the orientation with which it is mounted.
2. An electric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power consumed by said circuit board can be changed depending on the direction in which it is mounted to said power supply unit.
3. An electric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power consumed by said circuit board can be maintained at a constant level by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit based on the voltage impressed by said power supply unit to said circuit board,
4. An electric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said circuit board includes a plurality of connection points at which said circuit board is connected to said power supply unit, and two circuit elements that

are installed between the connection points, such that the connection between the two circuit elements may be switched between series connection and parallel connection by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit.

5. An electric apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said circuit elements include a heating resistor.

6. An electric apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said circuit elements include an electromagnetic induction coil

7. An electric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said circuit board is mountable to said power supply unit in two different orientations whereby one such orientation has a 180° rotational relationship to the other orientation, such orientation being obtained by rotating the circuit board relative to an axis perpendicular to the surface thereof.

8. An electric apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said circuit board is mountable to said power supply unit in two different orientations whereby one such orientation has a 180° rotational relationship to the

other orientation, such orientation being obtained by rotating the circuit board relative to an axis parallel to the surface thereof.

9. A heating device comprising:

a power supply unit that has terminals for supplying power to a circuit board; and

a circuit board that has a heater and that can be mounted to the power supply unit in at least two different orientations such that the current path to the heater can be changed depending on the mounting orientation.

10. A heating device according to claim 9, wherein the output of the heater can be changed depending on the direction in which it is mounted to said power supply unit.

11. A heating device according to claim 9, wherein the output of the heater can be maintained at a constant level by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit based on the voltage impressed by said power supply unit to said circuit board.

12. A heating device according to claim 9, wherein said heater includes two heating elements, such that the

connection between the two heating elements may be switched between series connection and parallel connection by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit.

13. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming system that forms toner images on recording sheets; and

a fixing device that heats and fuses each toner image formed on a sheet by the image forming system,

wherein the fixing device includes a power supply unit that has terminals for supplying power to a circuit board, and a circuit board that has a heater and that can be mounted to the power supply unit in at least two different orientations such that the current path to the heater can be changed depending on the mounting orientation.

14. An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the output of the heater can be changed depending on the direction in which it is mounted to said power supply unit.

15. An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the output of the heater can be maintained at

a constant level by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit based on the voltage impressed by said power supply unit to said circuit board,

16. An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said heater includes two heating elements, such that the connection between the two heating elements may be switched between series connection and parallel connection by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit.